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AND

FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

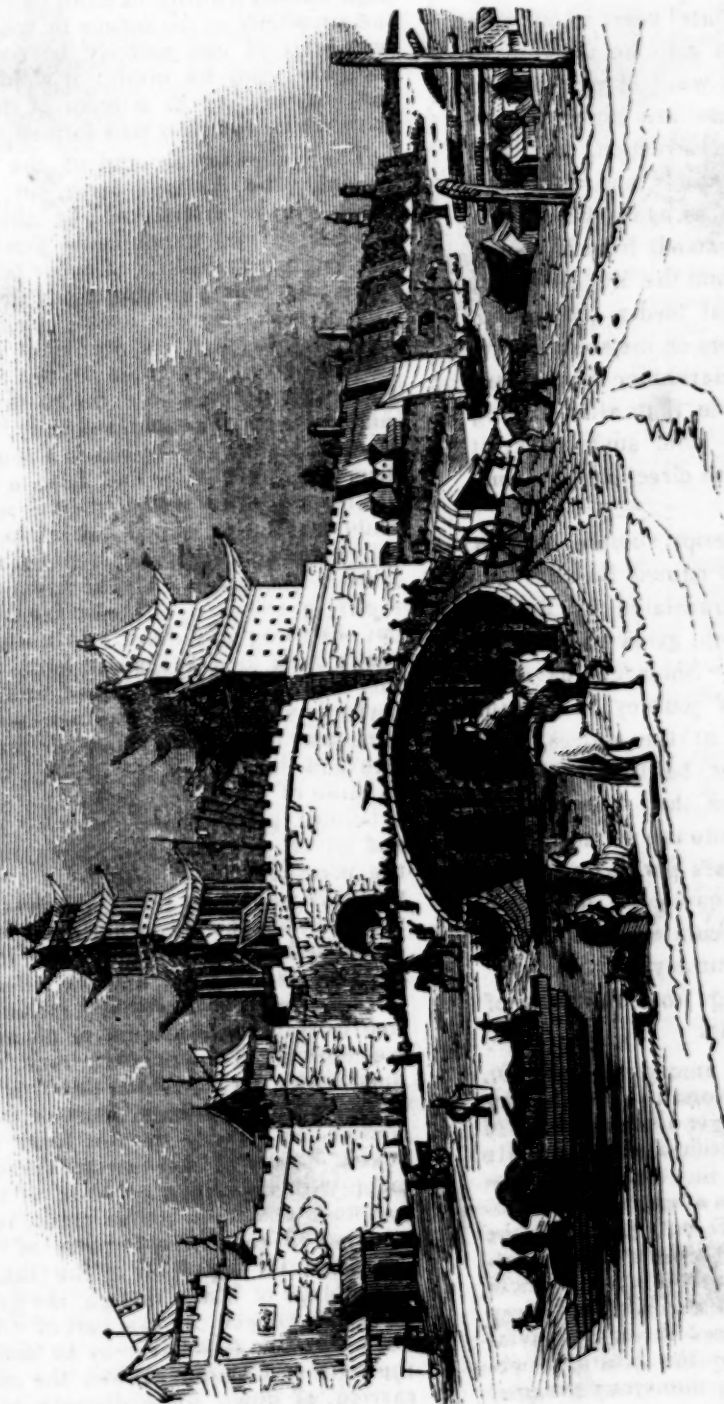
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VOL. I.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1845.

No. 43.



THE CHINESE IMPERIAL CANAL.

This fine, spirited, and, we believe, correct view of the Grand Canal of China, presents an assemblage of objects pleasing and useful as a study. We have the smooth surface of the water on the left, with one of the boats we have before described, (see the 25th number of this magazine, page 385,) preparing to pass

into a city, under one of the handsome bridges here and there to be met with in that country, and such as we have also described and depicted before, (in No. 2, page 21.) The crowd of passengers on the bridge, pouring from the low arched gateway in the city wall, indicate that it is on one of the great

avenues; while the height of the walls and the size and number of pagodas rising above them, accord with the extent of a large city, and the devotion of the people of that benighted land to the worship of their idols.

The course of the Canal along the city wall is in view, with specimens of some of the various boats which navigate it.

The grand Canal of China is one of the objects which naturally excite our most lively curiosity. So much have we to do with works of this kind of late years in our own country, and so manifest are the advantages which they afford, that we feel qualified to judge of them, while we are eager to learn the details of their construction, use, and management in foreign lands, and especially among a people so peculiar as the Chinese.

The canal of China extends from Lintsingchow, in Shantung, beyond the Yellow River, and has for its principal feeder, the Hunho, which pours in its waters on the summit level. What is very remarkable, this stream comes in with such force, that after striking against a bulkhead of solid stone-work, it divides, and flows in both directions in a current.

In a Chinese manuscript volume, written by a Mongol historian, named Raschid udden, A. D., 1307, and translated by Messrs. Von Hammer & Klapproth, gives the following description of it:—"Ships can navigate it; and it is forty days' journey in length. When the ships arrive at the sluices, they are raised up, whatever be their size, by means of machines, and then they are let down on the other side into the water." This, according to the accounts given by the English ambassadors who navigated it on their way to Peking, is an accurate description of the practice at the present day.

We copy the following from the work of Gov. Davis of Hong Kong.

"Many persons, and among the rest Dr. Abel, have not been disposed to estimate very highly the labor and ingenuity displayed in the construction of that artificial channel. He observes, 'This famous monument of industry, considered simply as a channel of communication between different parts of the empire, appears to have been somewhat over-rated as an example of the immense power of human labor and of human art. In every part of its course it passes through alluvial soil, readily penetrated by the tools of workmen, and is intersected by numerous streams.

It would be difficult to find any part of it carried through twenty miles of country unaided by tributary rivers. The sluices which keep its necessary level are of the rudest construction: buttresses formed of blocks of stone, with grooves fitted with thick planks, are the only locks of the Imperial canal. It is neither carried through any mountain nor over any valley.' Much of this is certainly true, and confirmed by the observation of Du Halde, that 'in all that space there were neither hills, quarries, nor rocks, which gave the workmen any trouble either to level or to penetrate.' But if the canal is admitted to be a work of high national utility in more lights than one, the simplicity of the means by which the end was attained can scarcely be considered to derogate from its merit: it would seem, on the contrary, to be a proof of the sagacity with which the plan was formed.

The following account of the process of crossing the Yellow river, at the point where it is intersected by the canal, is given from two unpublished journals of the last English embassy. 'On our left (proceeding south) was a stream called the New Salt river, which, like the canal, opened into the Yellow river; and on our right we had for several days, very close to us, the Yellow river itself, which, just before this point of junction with the canal, suddenly turns north-eastward, after having run in a south-easterly direction. When we had been a short time at anchor, during which interval some of the chief mandarins visited the ambassador, we all got under weigh, and prepared to cross the famous Hoang-ho. All the boats on entering the river, struck right across the stream without observing any order, and gained the opposite bank in less than an hour. The weather being fine and moderate, and the water perfectly smooth, our boatmen were not so particular in the observance of their ceremonies and libations on the passage of the river as those of the last embassy: but every boat, I believe, burnt a few pieces of gilt paper, and let off a volley of crackers in honor of the occasion. The breadth of the river in this part was about three quarters of a mile per hour, but the water not much more muddy or yellow at this point than it has been observed in the Peiho and elsewhere.

The stream was certainly violent, and carried us down a considerable distance before we could reach the opposite bank, which was lined with a great number of boats, of various shapes and dimensions, some of them being constructed exactly in the form of oblong boxes. Many of these were stationary, and laden with the straw or stalk of the *holcus sorghum*, and with coarse reeds, ready to be transported to different parts of the river and canal for the repair of the banks. This assemblage of boats, though the greatest we have yet noticed in this part of China, bore no comparison to what may be daily seen in the river of Canton. When the current had carried us down some distance to the east-

ward, we had a mile or two to re-ascend the river, before we came to the opening through which we were to pursue our route to the south; and the passage in the vicinity of the bank, to which we kept on account of the current, was so obstructed with boats, that this was not effected under four hours from our first getting under weigh. The worst part was now to come in passing through a sluice, on the hither side of which the water, which had been confined in its passage through the abutments, raged with such fury as to suck down large floating substances in its eddies. This sluice upon a large scale was near one hundred yards across, and through it the waters rushed into the river at a rate of not less than seven or eight miles an hour. The projecting banks at the sides were not constructed of stone-work, but entirely of the straw or reeds already mentioned, with earth intermixed, and strongly bound with cordage.

Through this opening or sluice, and in close contact with the bank on our left, our boats were successively dragged forward by ropes communicating with several large windlasses, which were worked upon the bank; by these means the object was slowly accomplished, without the least damage or accident. After thus effecting a passage through the sluice, we found ourselves nearly in still water; not yet, however, in the southern division of the great canal, as we had expected, but in the main stream of another large river, hardly inferior in breadth to that which we had quitted. We were told it communicated at no great distance with the great lake Hoong-tse Hoo, to the right of our course. The stream by which this lake discharges its waters into the Yellow river is marked in all the maps of China, but represented as totally distinct and unconnected with the grand canal. It seems evident, therefore, that the course of the navigation has been latterly altered here, either from the overflowing of the Yellow river, or some other cause. That a change has taken place hereabouts seems indicated by the name 'The Salt river,' on the other side of the main stream of the Hoang-ho.

Entered the southern division of the grand canal. A great deal of labor and contrivance has been employed here in constructing the embankments and regulating the course of the waters. In the first place, two or three artificial bays or basins have been hollowed out in the bank of the river, where the boats proceeding to the southward, assemble in security and wait their turn to pass. There are then two other narrow passes, or imperfect sluices, subsequent to the first opening that leads from the river to the canal, having also broad basins between them, and embankments constructed as before, with the straw or reeds confined with cordage. The object of this repetition of sluices, with the basins between, seems in some degree similar to that of the locks on our own canals."

For the internal commerce of the empire,

the Chinese are rendered almost wholly independent of coast navigation by their Imperial canal, which in point of extent and magnitude of undertaking, is, as well as the great wall, unrivalled by any other works of the kind in the whole world. The canal was principally the work of Kobblai Khan and his immediate successors of the *Yuen* race.

The two principal rivers of China occupy a very high rank in the geographical history of the globe. Taking the Thames as a unit, Major Rennel estimated the proportions of the Yangtse-keang and Yellow river at fifteen and a half and thirteen and a half respectively, and they are secondary only to the Amazon and the Mississippi. The Yangtse-keang, the river, or the "Son of the sea," has been by some people styled the Blue river, but there is no such name for it in Chinese. It rises in Kokonor, the country between Thibet and China, not far from the sources of the Yellow river; turning suddenly south, it makes an abrupt bend through the provinces of Yun-nán and See-chuen, where it takes the name of the "Golden-sanded river;" and then flowing north-east and east, it subsequently makes a gentle bend southward, and receives the superfluous waters of the Tongting Hoo, the largest lake of China; thence, in its course towards the sea, it serves as a discharger to another large lake, the Poyang Hoo, in Keang-sy province; after which it runs nearly north-east, and flows past Nanking into the ocean, which it reaches exactly under the thirty-second parallel of latitude. This great stream runs with such a strong and prevailing ebb, that Lord Amherst's embassy found great difficulty in sailing up its course towards the Poyang lake, being unable to make any way at all, except with a strong north-easterly breeze. The flood tide was felt no higher than Kua-chow, below Nanking.

The yellow river rises also in the country of Kokonor, but soon turning as abruptly north as the Keang does south, it passes across the great wall, and makes an elbow round the territory of the Ortous; passing back again across the wall, it flows due south, and forms the boundary of Shán-sy and Shensy; whence it turns sharply eastward and reaches the sea in latitude 34°. From the excessive rapidity of its stream, this river is nearly unnavigable through its greater length. In the old maps of China, the yellow river has been represented as flowing into the Gulf of Pechele, north of the Shantung promontory. If then, in the construction of the canal under Kobblai Khan, its ancient course was turned, it is possible that this violence to nature has occasioned the constant recurrence of the dreadful accidents which attend the bursting of its artificial, but ill-constructed, banks and dikes. It is a source of perpetual anxiety and heavy expense to the government, and there is a tax on the Hong merchants at Canton, expressly on this account. Yellow river is so called from the quantity of mud which it contains.

Captain Fremont's Second Exploring Expedition.

Captain Fremont departed on his second expedition from the little town of Kansas, on the Missouri frontier, on the 29th of May, 1843. His party consisted principally of Creole and Canadian French, and Americans, amounting in all to thirty-nine men; among whom were several of those who had accompanied him on his former tour. Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick was selected as the guide, and Mr. Charles Preuss was associated with the expedition as before. The party were armed generally with Hall's carbines, and were furnished with a brass twelve-pound howitzer. The camp equipage and provisions were transported in twelve carts, each drawn by two mules, and a light coloured wagon, mounted on springs, conveyed the instruments.

"To make the exploration as useful as possible, I determined," says Captain Fremont, "in conformity with my general instructions, to vary the route to the Rocky Mountains from that followed, in the year 1842. The route then was up the Valley of Great Platte river to the South Pass, in north latitude 42° ; the route now determined on was up the valley of the Kansas river, and to the head of the Arkansas, and to some pass in the mountains, if any could be found, at the sources of that river.

By making this deviation from the former route, the problem of a new road to Oregon and California, in a climate more genial, might be solved, and a better knowledge obtained of an important river and the country it drained, while the great object of the expedition would find its commencement at the termination of the former, which was at that great gate in the ridge of the Rocky Mountains called the South Pass and on the lofty peak of the mountain which overlooks it, deemed the highest peak in the ridge, and from the opposite sides of which four great rivers take their rise, and flow to the Pacific, or the Mississippi."

The route appears to have been for many days through a pleasant and level prairie country, intersected with numerous streams, in general well timbered on their margin with ash, elm, cotton-wood, and very large oak. This agreeable state of things did not, however, long continue.

"Shortly after leaving our encampment on the 26th of June, bare sand hills every where surrounded us in the undulating ground, and the plants peculiar to a sandy soil made their appearance in abundance."

The forth of July was spent at Vrain's fort, in latitude 40° deg. 16 min. 52 sec. north, and longitude west 105° deg. 12 min. 23 sec.

The party were in the neighborhood of Pike's peak on the 11th of July. We are told respecting the country through which they were now traveling, that—

"With occasional exceptions, comparatively so very small as not to require mentioning,

these prairies are every where covered with a close and vigorous growth of a great variety of grasses, among which the most abundant is the buffalo grass, (*sesleria dactyloides*.) Between the Platte and Arkansas rivers, the soil is excellent, admirably adapted to agricultural purposes, and would support a large agricultural and pastoral population.

Throughout the western half of the plain bottom lands, bordered by bluffs, vary from five to five hundred feet in height. In all this region the timber is entirely confined to the streams."

On the 17th of July Captain Fremont visited the celebrated Springs, from which the Boiling Springs' river takes its name, and gives the following graphic sketch of their locality:

"Leaving the camp to follow slowly, I rode ahead in the afternoon in search of springs. In the mean time, the clouds, which had been gathered all the afternoon over the mountains, began to roll down their sides; and a storm so violent burst upon me, that it appeared I had entered the store-house of the thunder storms. I continued, however, to ride along up the river until about sunset, and was beginning to be doubtful of finding the springs before the next day, when I came suddenly upon a large smooth rock, about twenty yards in diameter, where the water from several springs was bubbling and boiling up in the midst of a white incrustation with which it had covered a portion of the rock.—As this did not correspond with a description given me by the hunters, I did not stop to taste the water, but dismounting, walked a little way up the river, and passing through a narrow thicket of shrubbery, bordering upon the stream, stepped directly upon a huge white rock, at the foot of which the river, already become a torrent, foamed along, broken by a small fall. A deer which had been drinking at the spring was startled at my approach, and springing across the river, bounded off up the mountain. In the upper part of the rock which had apparently been formed by a deposition, was a beautiful white basin overhung by currant bushes, in which the cold clear water bubbled up, kept in constant motion by the escaping gas and overflowing the rock which it had almost entirely covered with a smooth crust of glistening white. I had all day refrained from drinking, reserving myself for the spring; and as I could not be more wet than the rain had already made me, I lay down by the side of the basin and drank heartily of the delightful water, immediately at the foot of lofty mountains, beautifully timbered, which sweep closely round, shutting up the little valley in a kind of cove. As it was beginning to grow dark, I rode quickly down the river, on which I found the camp a few miles below.

July 20.—We continued our march up the stream, along a green sloping bottom, between pine hills on the one hand, and the main Black hills on the other, towards the ridge which separates the waters of the Platte from those

of the Arkansas. As we approached the dividing the ridge, the whole valley was radiant with flowers: blue, pink, white, scarlet, and purple vied with each other in splendor. *Esparettie* was one of the highly characteristic plants, and a bright looking flower (*gait-lasdia aristata*) was very frequent; but the most abundant plant along our road to-day was *geranium maculatum*, which is the characteristic plant on this portion of the dividing grounds. Crossing to the waters of the Platte, fields of blue flax added to the magnificence of this mountain garden; this was occasionally four feet in height, which was a luxuriance of growth that I rarely saw this almost universal plant attain throughout the journey.

The party were on the 3d of August on a fork of the Laramie river, in latitude 41 deg. 45 min. 59 sec., and longitude 106 deg. 47 min. 25 sec.

"At this place (says Capt. F.) I became first acquainted with the *yampah* (*anethum graveolens*) which I found our Snake woman engaged in digging in the low timbered bottom of the creek. Among the Indians along the Rocky Mountains, and more particularly among the Shoshonee, or Snake Indians, in whose territory it is very abundant, this is considered the best among the roots used for food. To us, it was an interesting plant—a little between the savage and the civilized life. Here, among the Indians, its root is a common article of food, which they take pleasure in offering to strangers; while with us, in a considerable portion of America and Europe, the seeds are used to flavor soup. It grows more abundantly, and in greater luxuriance on one of the neighboring tributaries of the great Colorado than in any other part of this region; and on that stream to which the Snakes are accustomed to resort every year to procure a supply of their favorite plant, they have bestowed the name of *Yampah* river. Among the trappers it is generally known as Little Snake river.

In the afternoon we took our way directly across the spurs from the point of the mountains where we had several ridges to cross; and although the road was rendered bad by the nature of the ground, it was made extremely rough by the stiff, tough bushes of *artemesia tridentata*, in this country commonly called sage.

This shrub now began to make its appearance in compact fields; and we were about to quit for a long time this country of excellent pasturage and brilliant flowers. Ten or twelve buffalo bulls were seen during the afternoon; and we were surprised by the appearance of a large red ox. We gathered around him as if he had been an old acquaintance, with all our domestic feelings as much awakened as if we had come in sight of an old farm house. He had probably made his escape from some party of emigrants on Green river; and with a vivid remembrance of some old green field, he was pursuing the

straightest course for the frontier that the country admitted. We carried him along with us as a prize; and when it was found in the morning that he had wandered off, I would not let him be pursued, for I would rather have gone through a starving of three entire days, than let him be killed, after he had successfully run the gauntlet so far among the Indians. I have been told by Mr. Bent's people of an ox born and raised at St. Vrain's fort, which made his escape from them, at Elm grove, near the frontier, having come in that year with the wagons. They were on their way out, and saw occasionally places where he had eaten and lain down to rest; but did not see him for about 700 miles, when they overtook him on the road, travelling along to the fort, having unaccountably escaped Indians and every other mischance."

On the north fork of the Platte:

"In the precipitous bluffs were displayed a succession of strata containing fossil vegetable remains and several beds of coal. In some of the beds the coal did not appear to be perfectly mineralized; and in some of the seams it was compact, and remarkably lustrous. In these latter places, there were also thin layers of a very fine white salt, in powders.

On the 13th of August the expedition took its way along the upland, towards the dividing ridge which separates the Atlantic from the Pacific waters, and crossed it by a road some miles further south than the one we had followed on our return in 1842. We crossed very near the table mountain, at the southern extremity of the South Pass, which is nearly twenty miles in width, and already travelled by several different roads. Selecting as well as I could, in the scarcely distinguishable ascent, what may be considered the dividing ridge in this remarkable depression of the mountain, I took a barometrical observation, which gave 7,499 feet from the elevation above the Gulf of Mexico. You will remember that in my report of 1842, I estimated the elevation of this pass at about 7,000 feet; a correct observation with a good barometer enables me to give it now with more precision. Its importance, as the great gate through which commerce and travelling may hereafter pass between the valley of the Mississippi and the North Pacific, justifies a precise notice of its locality and distance from leading points, in addition to this statement of its elevation. As stated in the report of 1842, its latitude at the point where we crossed is 42 deg. 24 min. 32 sec.; its longitude, 109 deg. 29 min. 00 sec.; its distance from the mouth of the Kansas, by the common travelling route, 962 miles; from the mouth of the Great Platte, along the valley of that river, according to our survey of 1842, 882 miles; and its distance from St. Louis about 400 miles more by the Kansas, and about 700 by the Great Platte route; these additions being steamboat conveyances in both instances. From this pass to the mouth

of the Oregon is about 1,400 miles by the common travelling route; so that, under a general point of view, it may be assumed to be about half way between the Mississippi and the Pacific ocean, on the common travelling route. Following a hollow of a slight and easy descent, in which was very soon formed a little tributary to the Gulf of California, (for the waters which flow west from the South Pass go to this Gulf.) we made our usual halt four miles from the pass, in latitude by observation, 12 deg. 19 min. 53 sec. Entering here the valley of Green river—the great Colorado of the West—and inclining very much to the southward along the streams which form the Sandy river, the road led for several days over dry and level uninteresting plains; to which a low, scrubby growth of artemisa gave a uniform dull grayish color; and on the evening of the 25th we encamped in the Mexican territory, on the left bank of Green river, 69 miles from the South Pass, in longitude 110 deg. 05 min. 05 sec., and latitude 41 deg. 53 min. 54 sec., distance, 1,031 miles from the mouth of the Kansas. This is the emigrant road to Oregon, which bears much to the southward, to avoid the mountains about the western heads of Green river, the *Rio Verde* of the Spaniards."

AN UNEASY PREDICAMENT.

We were the witnesses of a ludicrous incident which occurred in this city a few days since, for relating which we crave the indulgence of the gentleman directly concerned—deeming it too good a joke to be lost.

While sitting at our desk and laboring assiduously, with pen, scissors, and paste, to make out a readable paper for our patrons, we were suddenly "frightened from our propriety" by the hasty entrance of a gentleman, exclaiming, "For mercy's sake, help me to see what's the matter! I've got some dreadful thing—scorpion or tarantula—in the leg of my pantaloons! Quick, quick—help me!"

We instantly rose from our chair, half frightened ourselves. Our friend had broken in suddenly and unexpectedly upon us, and was so wonderfully agitated, that we knew not whether he was indeed in his senses or not. We looked at him with a sort of suspicion mixed with dread, and hardly knew whether to speak with, or seize and confine him for a madman. The latter we came near attempting. There he stood quivering and pale, with one hand tightly grasped upon a part of his pantaloons just in the hollow of the knee.

"What's the matter?" at last asked we.

"The matter!" he exclaimed, "oh, help me!—I've got something here, which just

ran up my leg! Some scorpion or lizard, I expect! Oh, I can't let it go; I must hold it. Ah, there!" he shrieked, "I felt it move just then! Oh, these pants without straps! I'll never wear another pair open at the bottom as long as I live. Ah! I feel it again!"

"Feel what?" we inquired, standing at the same time at a respectful distance from the gentleman; for we had just been reading our correspondent's letter about snakes, lizards, and tarantulas, and began to imagine some deadly insect or reptile in the leg of our friend's large and unconfined pantaloons.

"I don't know what it is," answered the gentleman; "help me to see what it is. I was just passing that pile of old rubbish there, in front of your office, and felt it dart up my leg as quick as lightning," and he clenched his fist still more tightly. If it had been the neck of an anaconda we believe he would have squeezed it to a jelly.

By this time two or three of the newsboys had come in; the clerks and packing boys hearing the outcry stopped working, and editors and all hands stood around the sufferer with looks of mingled sympathy and alarm.

"Bring a chair, Fritz," said we, "and let the gentleman be seated."

"Oh, I can't sit!" said the gentleman; "I can't bend my knee—if I do, it will bite or sting me; no I can't sit!"

"Certainly you can sit," said we; keep your leg straight out, and we'll see what it is you've got."

"Well, let me give it one more hard squeeze; I'll crush it to death," said he, and again he put the force of an iron vice upon the thing. If it had any life, this last effort must have killed it. He then cautiously seated himself, holding out his leg as stiff and straight as a poker. A sharp knife was procured; the pants were cut open carefully, making a hole large enough to admit a hand; the gentleman put on a thick glove and slowly inserted his hand, but he discovered nothing. We were all looking on in almost breathless silence to see the monstrous thing—whatever it might be; each ready to scamper out of harm's way should it be alive; when suddenly the gentleman became, if possible, more agitated than ever. He exclaimed, "it's inside my drawers. It's alive too—I feel it!—Quick—I—give me the—knife again."—Another incision was made. In went the gentleman's gloved hand once more, and, lo! out came—an old stocking!

How the stocking ever got there we are unable to say; but there it certainly was; and such a laugh as followed, we hav'n't heard for many a day. Our friend, we know, has told the joke himself, and must pardon us for doing so.—Though this is all about a stocking, we assure our readers it is no "yarn."—*N. O. Picayune.*

Large Masses of Native Copper and Silver.

While the rich ores of Lake Superior are almost daily freighted to Boston, a rock of Metallic Copper and pure native Silver, weighing more than 1600 pounds, has found its way to New Haven. This specimen, is said far to surpass, in beauty of form and rich display of silver on its surface, the one removed from the west fork of Ontonogon River a few years since, by Mr. Eldred, at an expense of \$5,000. It was discovered by an Indian, named Tousant Piquet, in the employ of Major J. B. Cambell, a few miles eastward of Elm River, on the Lake shore. It has, no doubt, for many years buffeted the waves of this inland ocean. Notwithstanding it was found loose amidst an assemblage of porphyritic and granite boulders, lodged upon the strata of red sand stone, dipping under the lake, still the adhesion of a portion of vein stone shows, evidently, that it was originally an inhabitant of the adjacent Elm River hills, where regular veins, exhibiting native copper in place, may be seen, on lands secured by Messrs. Kinzie & Green. We are informed by a gentleman, who has carefully explored the copper region, that these loose masses of copper may be traced to their parent veins of calcareous spar and analcime in the conglomerate and red sand stone, and of Prehnite, Laumonite, and Datholite in the Trap. In this way, they become leaders or guides to the mineral contents of this region, which promises soon to be the United States what the Ural is to Russia—the seat of prodigious industry, and the source of inexhaustible mineral treasures.—*New Hampshire paper.*

AN IMMENSE HORSE.—Carter, the Lion King, "has purchased the largest horse in England. He has named him 'General Washington.'" He is twenty hands high, and looks as large as an elephant. He is beautifully dappled—his mane is nearly four feet long; his tail sweeps the ground; he is perfectly formed, and is regarded as one of the finest specimens of the horse ever seen in Great Britain. He is only six years old; he will be exhibited shortly in London, and then sent to the United States.

AGRICULTURAL.

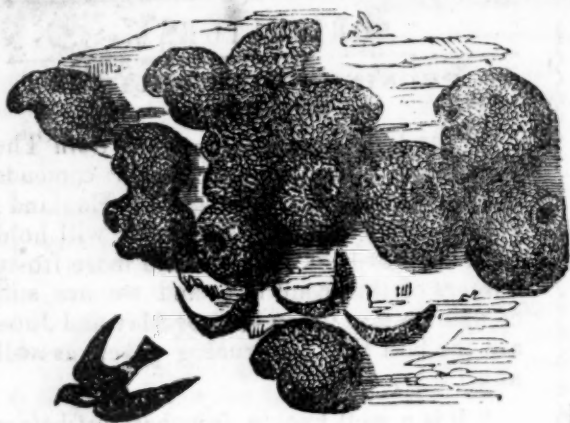
PRUNING STONE FRUIT IN THE FALL.

In the following article, taken from The Gardiner's Chronicle, the writer contends that the autumn season is best in England; yet we doubt whether his reasons will hold good in the drier climate and more frosty winters of this country; and we are still of opinion that the months of May and June are the best here for pruning peach as well as all other trees.

"It is a well known fact that just before or just as the leaves are falling in autumn, when sufficient sap is in motion, and in its downward course, a more speedy and perfect cicatrization will be effected than in spring. Those who have been in the habit of making cuttings of shrubs, &c., well know that if the cuttings are put in early in autumn, success is beyond a doubt, but if they are delayed until late in the season, or until spring, that failure is as certain. In the former case a callosity is formed by the descending sap, and roots are eventually sent out, and a plant is established; in the latter, no callosity is formed, and the cutting dies. It may be inferred from this, that the wounds are healed by the descending sap before the approach of winter; so much so, that no moisture can enter from without, and hence no injury can result from frost.

There is another important consideration which must not be overlooked in favor of autumn pruning. In many parts of England the young wood of the peach does not ripen to the extremities, more particularly in wet seasons, and the consequence is that early frosts rend the bark in all directions, the sap escapes, and the unripened part of the shoot dies. This is of common occurrence. Were their shoots shortened in autumn instead of in spring, just while there is action enough left to heal the wounds perfectly, the declining energy of the tree would be economised, for instead of being uselessly expended in assisting to repair the extremities of the shoots which are ultimately to be cut off, it would be husbanded in the parts left, which would of course be greatly strengthened, and the buds would also assume a prominent, healthy and vigorous appearance. I am strongly of opinion that autumn is decidedly the best time for pruning every kind of stone fruit. for the reasons I have advanced."—*Selected.*

The bones of birds are hollow, and filled with air instead of marrow.



NESTS OF THE CLIFF SWALLOW.

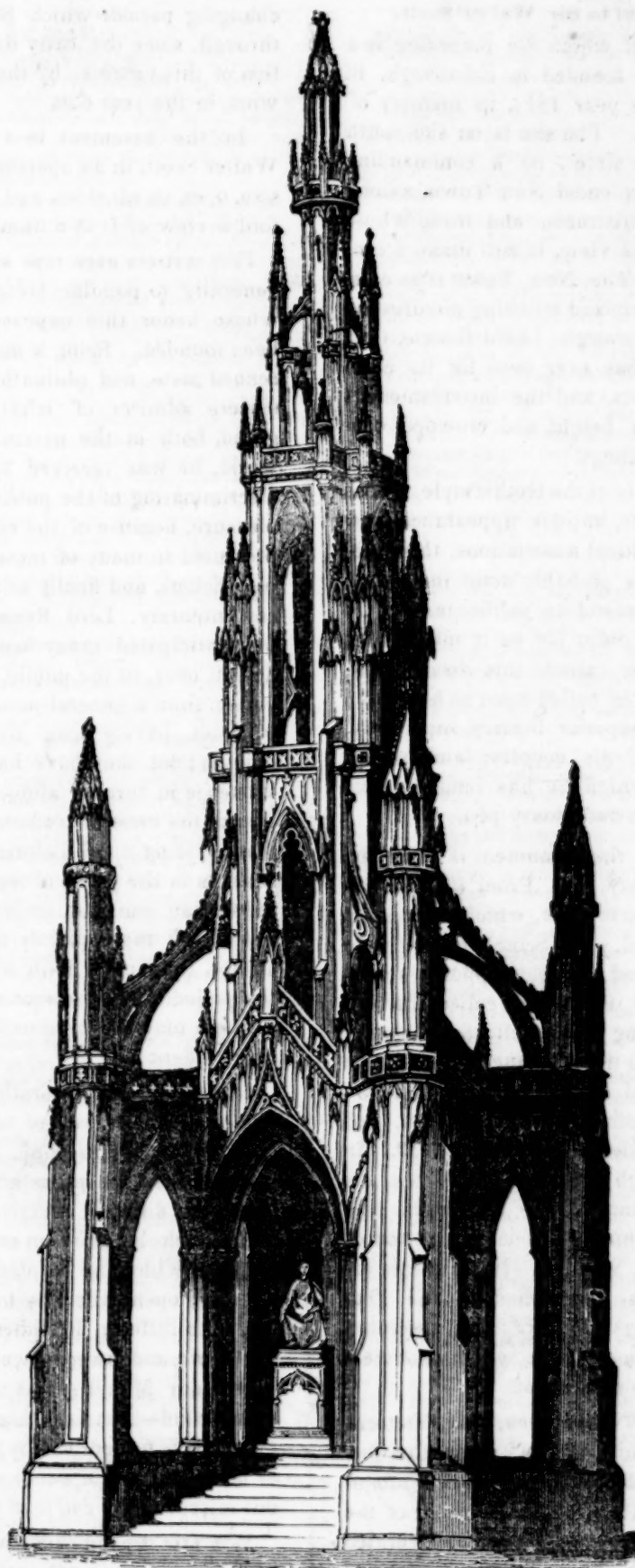
This is one of the ingenious swallow tribe, numbers of which are not less remarkable for the singularity of the places they choose for their nests, than for the peculiarity of the materials and forms of their nidification. Our bank swallows, the barn swallows and chimney swallows, are familiar to us from our childhood. In some other countries, varieties of the species present no less striking singularities. The following description of the bird and nests above depicted, we borrow from Bonaparte's *American Ornithology*, vol. 1. page 67.

The cliff-swallow (*Hirundo fulva*, VILLLOT,) is strikingly characterized by having an even and not a forked tail, like its congeners. Instead of a white rump, like our window-swallow, it has an iron-brown one, and the same color, but of a darker shade, under the chin, where our chimney-swallow is red. The upper part of the body, however, has the same glossy violet black, and the wings the same deep brown as the former. "This active little bird," says Bonaparte, "is, like its congeners, almost continually on the wing, and feeds on flies and other insects while performing its aerial evolutions. Its note is different from that of other swallows, and may be well imitated by rubbing a moistened cork around the neck of a bottle. The species arrive in the west, from the south, early in April, and immediately begin to construct their symmetrical nests, which are perfected by their united and industrious efforts. At the dawn of day they commence their labors by collecting the necessary mud from the borders of the rivers and ponds adjacent, and they persevere in their work until near mid-day, when they relinquish it for some hours, and amuse themselves by sporting in the air, pursuing insects, &c. As soon as the nest acquires the requisite firmness, it is completed, and the female begins to deposite her eggs, four in number, which are white spotted with dusky brown. The nests are extremely friable, and will readily crumble to pieces;

they are assembled in communities, as represented in the engraving.

In unsettled countries, these birds select a sheltered situation, under a projecting ledge of rock; but in civilized districts, they have already evinced a predilection for the abodes of man, by building against the walls of houses, immediately under the eaves of the roof, though they have not in the least changed their style of architecture. A nest from the latter situation is now before me: it is hemispherical, five inches wide at its truncated place of attachment to the wall, from which it projects six inches, and consists exclusively of a mixture of sand and clay, lined on the inside with straw and dried grass, negligently disposed for the reception of eggs. The whole external surface is roughened by the projection of the various little pellets of earth which compose the substance. The entrance is near the top, rounded, projecting, and turning downward, so that the nest may be compared to a chymist's retort, flattened on the side applied to the wall, and with the principal part of the neck broken off. So great is the industry of these interesting little architects, that this massive and commodious structure, is sometimes completed in the course of three days.

White, of Selborne, thus describes the building process of the window-swallow, or martin (*Hirundo urbica*). "About the middle of May," he says, "if the weather be fine, the martin begins to think in earnest of providing a mansion for its family. The crust or shell of this nest seems to be formed of such dirt or loam as comes most readily to hand, and is tempered and wrought together with little bits of straws, to render it tough and tenacious. As this bird often builds against a perpendicular wall without any projecting ledge under, it requires its utmost efforts to get the first foundation firmly fixed, so that it may safely carry the superstructure. On this occasion, the bird not only clings with its claws, but partly supports itself by strongly inclining its tail against the wall, making that a fulcrum; and, thus steadied, it works and plasters the materials into the face of the brick or stone. But then, that this work may not, while it is soft and green, pull itself down by its own weight, the provident architect has prudence and forbearance enough not to advance her work too fast; but, building only in the morning, and by dedicating the rest of the day to food and amusement, gives it sufficient time to dry and harden. About half an inch seems to be a sufficient layer for a day. Thus, careful workmen, when they build mud walls, (informed at first, perhaps, by this little bird,) raise but a moderate layer at a time, and then desist, lest the work should become top-heavy, and so be ruined by its own weight. By this method, in about ten or twelve days, is formed a hemispheric nest with a small aperture towards the top, strong, compact, and warm, and perfectly fitted for all the purposes for which it was intended."



THE MONUMENT TO SIR WALTER SCOTT,
At Edinburgh.

The Monument to Sir Walter Scott.

A monument, of which the preceding is a fine picture, was founded in Edinburgh, in the Spring of the year 1842, in memory of Sir Walter Scott. The site is on the south side of Prince's street, on a commanding eminence in the splendid New Town, among whose elegant structures, and from whose numerous points of view, it will make a conspicuous figure. The New Town is as celebrated for its beauty and striking picturesque effect, as Old Edinburgh, (Auld Reekie, that is, Old Smoky,) has ever been for its close and crooked streets, and the inconveniences arising from the height and crowded condition of the dwellings.

The monument is of the Gothic style, whose intricate ornaments, antique appearance, and religious and political associations, this celebrated author has probably done more than any other to commend to public taste. On that account this order (or as it might with more propriety be called, this *disorder*) of architecture may be called upon to hold up a memorial of his superior literary superiority, in the capital of his country, and in the midst of scenes which he has rendered conspicuous by his extraordinary pen.

The height of the monument is to be one hundred and eighty feet. From its base numerous objects are in view, which are no less strongly associated with Scotch history than with his prose and poetry. Opposite stands the commanding eminence called David's Height. Beginning on the left, the following edifices are seen in the order mentioned. The rear of the Royal Exchange, built in 1783; St. Giles's Cathedral, founded in 866, and erected into a collegiate church in 1753. In front of the high building stood the old prison, so important in the civil wars: the Heart of Mid-Lothian, built in the period of the Reformation, in 1561. It no longer exists, having been demolished in the year 1817. This brings the eye of a spectator, standing at the point from which our view is taken, up to the monument.

On the right of it are seen, first, Victoria Assembly Hall, built in 1842; then the Castle Parade, and the Duke of York's monument, erected in 1828, at the expense of the army. Last rises the strong and celebrated Castle of Edinburgh, on a tall, abrupt and frowning precipice, connected with many important epochs of history, in all the

changing periods which Scotland has passed through, since the early date of the foundation of this fortress, by the Saxon Prince Edwin, in the year 626.

In the basement is a sitting statue of Walter Scott, in an apartment of considerable size, open on all sides, and large enough to afford a view of it to a number of spectators.

Few writers ever rose so suddenly and so generally to popular favor as the author to whose honor this expensive monument has been founded. Being a man of pure morals, refined taste, and philanthropic disposition, a sincere admirer of what is beautiful and grand, both in the natural and in the moral world, he was received by the virtuous and discriminating of the public, with the greater pleasure, because of the contrast his writings presented to many of those of his misanthropic, vicious, and finally selfish and abandoned contemporary, Lord Byron. Some who at first anticipated many beneficial results; and no evil ones, to the public, and especially the young, from a general perusal of the writings of Scott, having long since changed their opinion; for they have had too palpable an influence in turning almost the whole attention of the mass of readers to fictitious works. The dressing up of historical events and personages in the garbs of fancy, proves to have more than one bad tendency; and no man has shown more plainly than this celebrated author, the facility with which, in that mode, the prejudices and discolored conceptions of a writer may be communicated to his admiring readers.

One great evil naturally following the popularity of a writer of fictions, even of the least exceptionable kind, and of the purest intentions, is the preparation of the way for those of a different character. In every mind over which he gains an ascendancy, in every heart in which he implants or cultivates his taste, he opens the way for successors to enter, with little or no difficulty. He has broken down and swept away the great barrier which our Maker seems to have built up in every mind—that is, a high regard for truth (when it is not our enemy) over what is false or unreal. This appears to be born with us: but miseducation can lead us to prefer fiction.

We are among those who never read or recommend anything except *the truth*; and we have made these remarks that our readers may know the objections to fictitious books

OBITUARY—WILLIAM C. WOODBRIDGE.

Of this old and highly valued personal friend, the news of whose death has recently arrived, I perceive no less reason to hold up a sketch of his life, as an example, than in private to meditate on his worth, to mourn over his loss, and to contemplate his gain in leaving a world in which he has known an unusual share of toil, sickness and pain.

Mr. Woodbridge early devoted himself to a life of active benevolence, having become, in youth, deeply and unchangeably impressed with a sense of the duties he owed to his fellow men, arising out of the character he professed as a servant of God. Few men, I think, have made active benevolence the fixed and regular business of life in a greater degree. After graduating at Yale College, (I believe in 1811,) he pursued a course of theological study, but was prevented, by constitutional ill health, from devoting himself permanently to the ministry of the Gospel. Soon after the instruction of the Deaf and Dumb was commenced in America, he joined Mr. Gallaudet and M. Le Clerc as a fellow teacher in the first institution, in Hartford, Conn., and rendered great service in the early stages of its operation. From about that time we date the commencement of his attention to the improvement of education, in its different branches, to which he devoted his subsequent life, almost without exception, so far as a diseased and feeble frame allowed him to engage in any business whatever.

About that period we first heard him speak of his views respecting the defects of the means and modes of education in use, and the ways in which they might be corrected. A better plan for teaching geography particularly, engaged his attention, which he afterwards presented to the world in his first improved school geography, of which many educators have approved and whose outlines and much of whose contents have been extensively embodied in later works of the same class. Of all those who have published geographies in this country, he is the only author who has devoted years to travel and study, in collecting the materials for publication. Woodbridge & Willard's Geography, for higher institutions, was formed on a plan simultaneously devised by himself, and Mrs. Emma Willard, founder of the Troy Seminary, unknown to each other. The arrangement is scientific, in departments, corresponding with that afterwards published, by Mathe Brun and others.

Twenty-five years ago this month, Mr. Woodbridge first sailed for Europe, for the improvement of his health, in company with the writer of this notice; and, in the intervals of a severe and depressing dysentery disorder, he displayed his devotion to the conscientious and philanthropic course which he afterwards deliberately adopted in the spirit of a missionary, often directing conversation to subjects which he subsequently prosecuted to a great degree. He also was one of the first passengers then known who ever attempted to practice religious services at sea. Among other of his experiments that might be mentioned, on crossing from Gibraltar to Algiers, he once engaged a motley company of Spaniards, Moors &c. into an animated and interesting conversation in the language of natural signs.

After remaining some time in Sicily during the revolution, and travelling through Italy, amidst scenes of war and confusion, which prevailed in 1821, he spent several months in the middle countries of Europe, then and at several subsequent visits to the Old World, devoting his time to the collecting of information on education, and especially materials for his geography. He formed the acquaintance of many of the most literary, scientific and philanthropic men of Europe, whose respect he enjoyed; and he made, at different times, valuable communications to several foreign Magazines and other publications, chiefly on topics connected with the United States. With his return from his first foreign travels, we may date the commencement of the operations for the improvement of Common Schools in this country. For,

although he had before aroused much interest in Baron Fellenberg's institution at Horwyl, in Switzerland, by the publication of a series of letters written on the spot, and which contained almost everything that our countrymen have ever read on that subject, no considerable attempt was made to produce any general co-operation for the benefit of common education, until he made known his plans and commenced his operations.

The American Annals of Education, which he conducted in Boston for a series of years, under many difficulties, abounded in facts and suggestions of the soundest kind; which were the ground work, as well as the exciting cause of the movements successively made by the legislatures of different States, and the friends of education who gradually arose in all quarters of the country. The conventions of teachers and others, in counties and larger districts, owed the origin and first impulses in a great measure to Mr. Woodbridge; as did the innumerable lyceums and other popular literary societies. He was one of the first to foresee opportunities to act in Massachusetts for the advantageous distribution of the money appropriated to the schools, and the most energetic in taking measures for that purpose. At every meeting held for the promotion of this favorite cause he was personally present, or represented by some valuable essay or other communication; and most of the enlightened and liberal proposals offered came from him or received his ardent support. He wrote the first letter on popular education in music, and incited and aided Messrs. Mason & Ives to attempt the introduction of that important science and art on modern principles. It is needless to remark on the extent to which their example has since been followed.

Mr. Woodbridge moved the first resolution, ever offered, recommending "the study of the Bible as a classic." The first Literary Convention in New York placed him at the head of a committee on that subject, and he not only drew up, but gratuitously published and widely circulated the report, which embraces, in a most distinct and forcible manner, the grand arguments in favor of that object, in a style which no man can read without admiration.—No writer before or since has exceeded it; and in all the discussions which have since taken place, it would be as difficult to discover any new thought or argument, as to point at any other commencement of the steps which has led to them.

While thus engaged, through years of ill health, and all the difficulties and discouragements arising from very limited pecuniary means, Mr. Woodbridge, not only found strength to perform numerous journeys, to carry on an extensive correspondence, to hold innumerable interviews with intelligent persons, and to devote money with a liberal hand for the public benefit, but his heart and hand were ever open at the calls of philanthropy. Few men, it is believed, have ever been more noble in giving, in proportion to their means.

Yet, strange as it now appears, when, as the result of his long, arduous and disinterested exertions, public interest was excited, and his plans were adopted, and men were called for to carry them into effect, he was never found in an office with a salary; but places of all sorts, created for the improvement and extension of common education, were filled by men, whose faces were wholly strange to him and the small band who had long labored in the parched field, who had gone to the war, and carried it through, "at their own charges." But those who value general results will not on this account, be disposed to depreciate the judicious, disinterested and persevering labors of Mr. Woodbridge. We hope our readers will do justice to his memory, and that young men especially, who read this brief memoir, which we have hastily written, with many a mournful recollection of a dear departed friend, will be encouraged to imitate an example, so full of duty to God, and love to man.

—(N. Y. Express)

THEO. DWIGHT, JR.

PUBLIC WINTER ENTERTAINMENT.

Will some of our intelligent and public spirited readers ask themselves the question, whether they cannot make some arrangements, at the approach of the cold season, and the long winter evenings, for the provision of the rational enjoyment of their neighbors or townsmen? In years past many a pleasant and profitable evening party has been held among hills, valleys and plains, in different parts of the county, in hearing familiar lectures on various subjects, sometimes illustrated by the exhibition of objects of different kinds; in collecting books for public libraries, in distributing and reading them, or in listening to amicable discussions of well selected topics and of written communications, signed or anonymous.

When well planned and conducted, such associations produce good effects, both moral, intellectual, and social. They promote harmony and good neighborhood while they assist in the education of all, and guard from temptation those whose leisure time might be otherwise dangerous to their character, habits, and prospects. It seems to be a plain duty for good persons to devise and pursue plans of this nature; and it is easy to invite meetings at the present time, and lay before them views like the following.

Extracts from a Lecture to the Young.

"How gratifying is the sight, when the young persons of a community associate, to devote their leisure hours to the improvement of their minds! How much credit it gives to their character, the good principles inculcated by their parents and teachers; and how many favorable anticipations of the future!

What can cause more sincere regret to an experienced man—a well-wisher to his country, than to find the youth around him deaf to remonstrances of private friendship and public virtue, hurrying on in the pursuit of folly and vice? Too often have the best of our countrymen had to lament such melancholy symptoms of national decay, and to waste their good counsels and upright examples on heedless throngs of scoffing youth, passing down the slippery steep of speedy destruction.

But how is the heart of the intelligent patriot encouraged, when he hears bursting from the throngs of gay and ardent youth the cry: 'Which is the road to learning? Who will show us the gate of knowledge?' Many, my young friends, are the good and the virtuous around you. Many are ready to assist those who desire to learn.

I appear before you in their name, to say to the young persons who may enlist in this

commendable career, your enterprize is honorable, your views are enlightened, your objects are valuable, your success is certain, if your efforts be but well directed, and your perseverance sure.

It is easy to show how every good citizen, every member of every large and small community in our country, is interested in the intellectual and moral improvement of every other, and especially of the young. What renders property and life secure? Our countrymen must be intelligent enough to distinguish the right from the wrong, as well as virtuous enough to prefer the one to the other. Why are some parts of our country subject to crimes and disorders, while others are tranquil and safe? Why do not all our citizens think and feel more alike, co-operate more heartily for the common good, and better understand than many do, that this is also the highest private interest?

In forming the plan of a popular literary association, a little precaution is necessary. Experience has plainly taught two things, through the history of the hundreds of such societies as have risen in our country at different times.

1st. That provision should be made for the employment of all. Every member should have some duty assigned him, and some opportunity to occupy his mind and to stimulate him to exertion.

When the society is large, let sections or departments, or committees hold separate meetings weekly, or at some other convenient periods, and pursue such different studies or exercises as they may prefer; and report the results at stated general meetings.

2d. Let the operations by no means be confined to one subject or form. Many a mere debating or lecture club has soon declined, and then there has been no way of saving it from dissolution. Some have ceased after an expenditure of \$1,000, 10,000, or 100,000; and others, now no more, live in the branches or scions which have sprung from them.

Every person within the hearing of my voice, I trust, approves of the objects and designs which have called us together. Every one, I hope, feels convinced, that the pursuit of knowledge is honorable, that its possession is valuable; yet, let me assure him, that its value surpasses his power to estimate it, and none can expect to value it in any adequate degree, until he has it in his possession.

Weather in Vermont.—The weather has been remarkably mild and pleasant here this season. One of our neighbors picked about a pint of red raspberries, last week. Strawberries were also in bloom last week. But Sunday night the weather caught a chill; and yesterday morning the snow was near an inch deep in the streets, and it stormed severely till about 10 o'clock, A. M. The tops of the Mountains have been a little white with snow once or twice before, this fall.—*Bennington Gaz.* 11th November.

MISCELLANEOUS.

CURIOUS.—Among the pageants at the coronation of Queen Mary, in 1553, was the following singular fact, related by Holinshed:

"Then there was one Peter, a Dutchman, that stood on the weathercock of Paul's steeple, (London,) holding a streamer in his hand of five yards long, and waving thereof, stood sometimes on the one foot and shooke the other, and then kneeled on his knees to the great marvel of all people.—He had made two scaffolds under him, one above the crosse, having torches and streamers set on it, and another over the ball of the crosse, likewise set with streamers and torches, which could not burne, the wind was so great. The said Peter had sixteen pounds thirteen shillings given him by the Citie for his costes and paines, and for all his stuffe."

OLD BIBLE.—A perfect copy of the first edition of the English Bible, printed by Miles Coverdale in 1535, was recently discovered in the bottom of an old oak chest, at Holkham Hall, England, the seat of the Earl of Leicester. There are numerous imperfect copies of this edition in existence, two being deposited in the library of the British Museum, one in the Bodleian library, and one in the Cambridge University library—but it is believed this is the only perfect copy in existence.—*Con. Courant.*

RARE BOOKS.—A sale by auction took place a few weeks since in London, of a portion of the library of a nobleman, consisting of many rare and curious books. The sale excited an unusual degree of interest in consequence of there being included in the sale one of the most splendid missals extant, with other books of costly value, entitled, *Officium Christiferae Virginis Mariæ secundum legem Ecclesiæ Parisiensis*, a manuscript of the 16th century, in vellum. This most beautiful volume is written in Roman characters, the paintings being most exquisitely finished, and the borders ornamented in the best style, with the devices and the mottoes of the family for whom it was executed. This bijou formerly belonged to Mr. Edwards, and was by far the most elegant and delicate of the illuminated offices he was ever able to procure. Dr. Diddin has given a very elaborate description of it, which is also noticed by Decameron, vol. 1., p. 180 1, as matchless. The bidding was very spirited, and eventually it was knocked down for

£135 to Mr. Rodd as was understood, for the British Museum. The Pentateuch (Tindal's version,) newly corrected and amended by W. T., the last leaf inlaid, but a very fine copy, with plates, 1534, extremely rare, sold for the large sum of £121. The Psalter, translated into English metre by Archbishop Parker, very rare, imprinted by J. Day, 1557, sold for 20*l.* The New Testament, in Englyshe and in Latin of Erasmus, imprinted by W. Powell, 1549, sold for 40*l.* The sale lasted three days, and realized a large sum of money.

AMERICAN TEA.—It appears from the Southern Planter that a successful attempt has been made in Virginia to cultivate the Chinese tea plant. Mr. N. Puckett, who has given considerable attention to the subject, is to have specimens of his tea at the Henrico agricultural fair, in November. We make the following extracts from Mr. P's letter concerning it:

The rolling of the leaf into the form in which it is brought from China, is wholly unnecessary, but, if it is desired, you have only to take the leaf after it is cleared of the stalk and partly dried, and, placing it between your finger and thumb, give it a tight squeeze.

Once in seed never out. After you have once sown the tea seed you will never lack for plants; for, manage as you will, more seed will always fall upon the ground than would be necessary for any plant bed; they will be in the ground all the winter, and come up with every rain during the next summer, and you may either transplant them, or you may thin them out into rows at the proper distance. Thus, notwithstanding the dryness of the season, I have now volunteer plants in the greatest profusion and of the finest quality.

I assure you, sir, there is no reason in the world why the farmers and gardeners in the Southern States should not grow their own tea, and grace their tables with this delightful beverage, infinitely more pure and wholesome than can be obtained from the unknown adulterated stuff that comes from abroad.

Since the great flood in the Mississippi, last year, several kinds of fish, before unknown to the vicinity of St. Louis, are caught in great abundance in the river and the small streams running into it. One kind is a very handsome fish, with bright silvery sides, reddish colored back, flat and broad,

resembling in shape the salt-water shad; for want of a better name the fishermen call them flounders. Another kind resembles in appearance the pike, but is smaller and more delicate in its proportions, with a brownish circle or ring round its body near the gills; these are called ringed sturgeon. Both are excellent fish. The latter is free from and the former full of small wiry bones. Herring, precisely like those of Cape Fear, have also made their appearance in the waters at St. Louis. They run in shoals, and are easily taken with hook or seine. Shrimps are now caught in the small necks and streams near that city, with the seine, by bushels.

DIAMONDS.—While at Gainsville last week, we were shown two diamonds (one weighing, we believe, $3\frac{1}{4}$ and the other $3\frac{3}{4}$ carats,) which were found in a gold mine belonging to Doctor Banks. We also saw a more valuable Diamond found some time since, and which, having been cut in the form of a brilliant, and handsomely set in a breast-pin, is in possession of Doctor Daniell. We learn that the Geological formation of much of Hall county, is favorable for finding these gems.—*Athens (Ga.) Banner.*

PATRICK'S COLT.—A gentleman who favors us with some reminiscences respecting the early settlement of this place—formerly old Derryfield, N. H.—relates the following anecdote:

"When my grandfather resided at Goffstown and Derryfield, then settled by the Irish, he hired a wild sort of an Irishman to work on his farm. One day, soon after his arrival, he told him to take a bridle and go out in the field and catch the black colt. 'Don't come back without him,' said the old gentleman. Patrick started and was gone some time, but at last returned minus the bridle, with his face and hands badly scratched, as if he had received rough treatment. 'Why Patrick, what is the matter, what in the name of wonder ails you?' 'An' faith, isn't it me, yer honor, that never catch the ould black colt again? bad luck to him. An' didn't he all but scratch me eyes out o' my head? An' faith as true as me head's me own, I had to climb up a tree after the colt!' 'Climb a tree after him? Nonsense! Where is the beast?' 'An' it's tied to the tree, he is, to be sure, yer honor.' We all followed Patrick to the spot to get a solution of the difficulty, and on reaching the field, we found, to our no small amusement, that he had been chasing a

young black bear, which he had succeeded in catching after a great deal of rough usage on both sides, and actually tied it with the bridle to an old tree. Bruin was kept for a long while, and was ever after known as 'Patrick's colt.'—*Manchester American.*

In Greece it was the custom at meals for the two sexes always to eat separately.

Forests of standing trees have been discovered in Yorkshire, England and in Ireland, imbedded in stone.

A Sabbath day's journey was about two-thirds of a mile.

TO THE DARKLINGS.

[Translated from a German poem in a little anonymous collection entitled *Ronge-lieder*, that is to say, songs composed with reference to the Ronge movement. They are much in the style of Herwegh's productions, displaying fire and energy rather than poetical beauty, and it is perhaps from Herwegh they emanate. The German title to the following poem is "Die Finsterlinge."]

On the throne of sacred justice brutal might again to rear,
And to force the whole creation a vile slavish form to wear;
And the sky with clouds to cover, when the sun is glad and bright,
And to bury ev'ry nation in its old and deadly night;—

And the youthful Easter morning, in its majesty sublime,
With the impious blade to scratch out from the almanack of time;
In the very bud to stifle revelations as they rise,
Truth to overload with curses—honor to bestow on lies;—

And to shriek throughout creation, yelling "Backwards!"—word profane,*
And by form and rule to slaughter what the mind's ex-
ceptions gain;
And the hand on culture's dial to turn back, and check the tone
Of the silver bell of freedom, when it scarce has sounded One;

And a code of laws to fashion, treating man but as a thing,
Which, as despots, they encompass with oppression's iron ring—
Yes, a code that makes the freeman a machine and nothing more,
And deprives the salt of savour, and forbids the mind to soar;

'Tis for this the Jesuits labour—'tis for this the darklings plan,
Who an impious game are playing with the holy mind of man:
But, ye brave and skilful miners, in your gloomy vaults beware,
Lest your own dread mines, exploding, hurl you thund'ring through the air.

* Und das ungeheure "Rückwärts" hinzurächzen durch die Welt.

Singular Phenomenon in a Speech.—An officer of artillery was seized with paralysis of the tongue, hands, and feet, in consequence of violent cold. Dr. Hertz thus describes his state—"I found him so much recovered as to have the complete use of his feet; his hands also were stronger; but in regard to his speech, the following very remarkable circumstance was to be observed. He was able to articulate distinctly any words which either occurred to him spontaneously, or when they were slowly and loudly repeated to him. He strenuously exerted himself to speak, but an unintelligible kind of murmur was all that could be heard. The effort he made was violent, and terminated in a deep sigh. On the other hand, he could read aloud with facility. If a book or any written paper was held before his eyes, he read so quickly and distinct that it was impossible to observe that there was the slightest fault in his organs of speech; but if the book or paper was withdrawn, he was then totally incapable of pronouncing one of the words which he had read the instant before. I tried this experiment with him repeatedly, not only in the presence of his wife, but many other people. The effect was uniformly the same."—*Vide Crichton's work, 2nd. volume, p. 85.*

Discovery of a mine of Diamonds.—The French Consul at Bahia has addressed a report to the Minister of Foreign Affairs at home, announcing the discovery, at the distance of 80 leagues from that capital, of an abundant mine of diamonds—a source of incalculable wealth to the province. It lies in a desert place, uninhabited, and scarcely accessible, and was discovered by mere accident. The head of a rich English company has already exported, it is said, nearly \$200,000 worth of its produce; and, as the working of the mine is left to any one who will, there is a race at present for its treasures. Eight or nine thousand emigrants, from all parts of Brazil have already pitched their tents on the savage and unwholesome spot, and to the inhabitants of a crowded European state, the very thought of a jewell mine to be ransacked at pleasure—diamonds to be had for the fetching—is a temptation like'y, we should think, to attract adventurers, even if the Upas tree stood in the way.—*Athenenm.*

A SMART DOG.—A man down East had been exceedingly annoyed by wolves, which destroyed his sheep. In the course of time a dog fancier offered to sell him a dog. A very notable dog he was, too. The catalogue of his merits was a very long one—there was not a dog virtue in the catalogue for which he was not distinguished—but if there was any one thing in which he particu-

larly excelled, it was his prowess as a wolf hunter.—This was touching our friend on the right spot. The bargain was closed, and he only waited an opportunity to test his merits.—At length there came a light snow, just the kind of a snow for wolf-hunting, and he took his dog and gun and sallied out. He soon crossed the track of a 'varmint'—the dog took the scent and bounded off in pursuit. On followed our friend, up hill and down dale, "thorough brush and thorough brier," for two hours, when he came across a Yankee chopping wood and the following satisfactory dialogue took place:

"Did you see a wolf and a dog pass by here?"

"Well, I guess I did."

"How long ago?"

"Well, I guess about half an hour."

"How was it with 'em?"

"Well, just about nip and tuck—but the dog had the advantage, for he was a *leetle* ahead."—*Nashua Telegraph.*

HEIRS WANTED.—A Mr. Bradley Pease died some months since in Louisiana, leaving about \$4000, for which there is no claimant. He is said to have been from Vermont, and has a sister living near Lake Champlain. If the heirs don't get the money the State will.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

The "*Scholar's Figure Book*" and the "*Scholar's Capital Book*, by a Teacher," are neat, cheap and useful copy-books, which we can recommend, after experience in the family, for the use of children learning to write with either pen or pencil. A page of copy is laid under a blank page, and the pupil traces with a pen or pencil. This is one of the modes of practice which are important in acquiring the art of writing. Children are at once amused and instructed by them. The author of this very convenient form of applying it, we know, and he is an old and excellent teacher. These books are published by Mr. E. French, of this city.

The "*New York Farmer and Mechanic*" is a valuable weekly paper, published at Clinton Hall, and edited by Samuel Fleet, whose practicable agricultural science and skill are well known. Such useful matter as this publication contains, we consider it a duty to recommend.

Receipt No. 2 of the Cook of the late Sir Joseph Banks:—Mr. Henry Osborne.

NOTTINGHAM PUDDING.

Peel six good apples; take out the cores with the point of a small knife, (or an apple-corer if you have one,) but be sure to leave the apples whole; fill up where you took the corer from with sugar; place them in a pie-dish, and pour over them a nice light batter prepared as batter for pudding, and bake an hour in a moderate oven.

POETRY.

"MR. DWIGHT—By publishing the following lines you will gratify many of the friends of Mr. Bacon, who may not have seen them in the Litchfield (Con.) paper, in which they were originally published. They were sent anonymously, but are supposed to have been written by a lady, whose diffidence of her own uncommon talents prevented her affixing her name to a dirge which does them so much credit. That the subject deserved all its praise, no one who knew him will question."

On the death of E. Champion Bacon, of Litchfield, Connecticut, who died in Seville, Spain.

Add to the list another,
Gone to the silent dead;
Mourn for a son and brother,
For a noble spirit fled.

Look on that grief-bow'd father,
That mother wild with woe;
On a brother's silent anguish
For a cherish'd one laid low.

In the midst of life and promise,
He strove with death in vain;
For the shaft was sped which laid him
low
'Neath the sunny skies of Spain.

What, tho' no friend stood wat'ning
Beside his dying bed;
His slightest whisper catching
Before the spirit fled?

What, tho' his grave is lowly,
In lands beyond the sea?
The spot to us is holy,
And evermore shall be.

The murmur'ing of the river
Shall be his requiem:
The storied Guadelquiver,
With its "low, perpetual hymn."

And the stars, that know no country,
Bend o'er his grave at night;
And only cease their vigils
With the dawning of the light.

A pale, pure moonbeam lingers,
Lovingly round the spot;
Like soft caressing fingers,
That would not be forgot.

And the sun, that lights us daily,
Shines on the emerald sod,
That shrouds his manly features,
Till he awakes with God.

Sweet flowers shall spring above him,
And, clustering round his tomb,
Shall image those who lov'd him,
And who mourn his early doom.

He was noble in his beauty,
And noble in his mind;
With talents of the rarest worth,
And intellect refined.

And in hearts whose love is worship,
His name shall ever be
Twin'd with the thought of home and
heaven,
Deep in our memory.

From Mitchell's "Notes from over Sea."

NAPLES.

This government, besides other forms of oppressive taxation, assumes to itself various monopolies. The impost on salt is spoken of as particularly vexatious—not as being simply more exorbitant than any other, nor because salt is one of the commonest necessities of life, and not a luxury; but because of circumstances which give it a more odious appearance of arbitrary power. There are within the kingdom, beds of salt a little below the surface, and easily accessible; there are streams of salt-water which deposit it upon their banks; and the sea, on all sides, in this hot climate incrusts the shore with it. Salt ought, therefore, to be cheap. I am told the duty on it is three dollars a bushel. And to prevent injury to this species of the royal revenue, the people are prohibited from taking water from the sea, lest they should evaporate it in pans. Guards are stationed along the coast to enforce this interdict. To take a pail of water from the sea to your dwelling would be smuggling. Of course the poor can have no salt.

Another royal monopoly is snow. It is collected and deposited in a natural ice-house on the top of St. Angelo, a neighboring mountain, and in summer brought to market. Some ice having formed during a winter night in Naples, the people began to collect it, taking up pieces of it in their hands, more from curiosity than as a luxury, when the police interfered and put an end to such an encroachment on the king's right. The ice and snow are his, and are not to be used tribute free.

The 14th of January, on an average of years is the coldest day in the year.

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